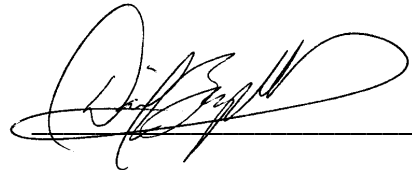


EL DORADO COUNTY EMS AGENCY

FIELD PROCEDURE:

Effective: January 1, 2017



EMS Agency Medical Director

Optional Scope Skill: EpiPen/EpiPen JR Administration

PURPOSE:

To provide immediate life-saving treatment to patients experiencing an anaphylactic reaction.

INDICATIONS:

- Allergic reaction/anaphylaxis as evidenced by:
 - Shortness of breath (wheezing, hoarseness, other abnormal sounds)
 - Itching/hives that are severe and rapidly progressing
 - Lip and tongue swelling/laryngospasm/difficulty swallowing, drooling
 - Hypotension/unresponsive
 - Patients with an exposure to a known allergen with progressively worsening symptoms (i.e. hives)
- Medication is prescribed for this patient by a physician or is carried on the BLS/ALS apparatus.
- Medical direction authorizes use for this patient.

ADVERSE EFFECTS:

- Hypertension-tachycardia, palpitations, headache
- Tremor, weakness
- Pallor, sweating, nausea, vomiting
- Nervousness, anxiety
- Increased myocardial oxygen demand and potentially increases myocardial ischemia
- Pain and redness at the injection site

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- None when indicated

EQUIPMENT:

- EpiPen

- EpiPen JR

Procedure:

ADULT:

- For patients over 30kg (66lbs) EpiPen (Adult size) should be used.
- Dose: 0.3mg (0.3ml, 1: 1,000) IM.
- The preferred injection site is the antero-lateral thigh
- May repeat dose in 10 minutes if ALS response is delayed and patient condition warrants.

Pediatric:

- Patients 15-30kg (33-66lbs)
- EpiPen JR 0.15mg (0.3ml, 1: 2,000)IM
- The preferred injection site is the antero-lateral thigh
- May repeat in 10 minutes if ALS response is delayed and patient condition warrants.

1. Obtain patient's auto-injector or auto-injector that is carried on your BLS/ALS apparatus.

Ensure:

- Prescription is written for the patient that is experiencing the allergic reaction unless your protocols permit carrying the auto-injector on your ambulance.
- Medication should not be discolored.
- Medication has not expired.

2. Obtain an order from medical direction On-line or off-line.

3. Remove the safety cap from the auto-injector.

4. Grasp the center of the auto-injector (to avoid accidentally injecting yourself).

5. Place the tip of the auto-injector on the patient's antero-lateral thigh between waist and knee.

6. Push the injector firmly against the thigh until the injector activates.

7. Hold the injector in place until the medication is injected (at least 10 seconds).

8. Record administration and time.

9. Dispose of auto-injector in designated biohazard container.

NOTE:

Use with caution in elderly or pregnant patients, but don't withhold if patient has serious signs or symptoms. (I.e. airway compromise, severe SOB, profound hypotension).